

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

ANNUAL REPORT  
OF THE  
Trustees of the Massachusetts  
State Library

FOR THE  
YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 30, 1932



MASSACHUSETTS  
STATE LIBRARY

APR 22 1933

## ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES

*To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled:*

The Trustees of the State Library make this their twenty-third annual report, for the year ending November 30, 1932, under the provisions of Chapter 6, Section 37, of the General Laws.

Mr. Fitz-Henry Smith, Jr. was re-appointed a trustee by Governor Ely on June 1, 1932, for a further term of three years.

The reduction in the appropriation for the library made necessary by the depression has restricted the purchase of books and pamphlets for, and of some of the activities of, the library. Greater use was, however, made of the library the past year than ever before, and the trustees are pleased to note that the extent and value of its facilities are becoming better known.

Every effort is being made by the trustees and the librarian to make the library more serviceable. The conduct of a library involves more than the mere collection and preservation of books and documents. They must be readily available, and to that end much work has been done in cataloguing, as set out in the report of the librarian. Further, a library must have a trained staff, one that not only knows the library but is capable of guiding and assisting those who apply to it in the intelligent use of the material which the library contains. Such a staff we believe the Massachusetts State Library possesses, and is efficiently performing the service that it is called upon to render.

For details we respectfully refer to the report of the librarian appended hereto.

CHAS. H. TAYLOR

C. T. COPELAND

FITZ-HENRY SMITH, JR.

## LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

I have the honor to submit the following report on the work done in the Massachusetts State Library during the year ending November 30, 1932.

The work of the year has been greater than that of any preceding year. The depression has not decreased the work of the library. It seems that the use of the State Library by research students and residents of the state who have never heard of the valuable collections of books which are housed in the State Library is on the increase, and this is very gratifying for a collection of books containing such useful information cannot be of much value hidden away in libraries unless they are put to work, and we have been putting these books to work in the hands of those who have appreciated and found just the material which they desired.

The following quotation from a letter illustrates just what I mean:—  
 "I would like to take this occasion to express to you my appreciation of the very courteous attention and service which I received on my visit to the State Library last week, which was the first time I had ever been there. I had not reached the desk when one of your attendants asked me if she could be of service to me, and on explaining to her what I desired. . . I was very much impressed with the courtesy and efficiency of your attendants, and I would like to express my appreciation. . ."

As in most libraries throughout the country, we have had to take a cut in our appropriation for books and binding, and contingent expenses. However, with the reductions we have carried on and have given as best we could with our limited income, service to our patrons. Our inter-library loans have increased tremendously during the year, due to depleted book collections in the public libraries throughout the state. That books are needed at the present time has been shown by the increased use made by these various libraries.

## CATALOGUE DEPARTMENT

Much of the work this year is not registered in volumes catalogued, but has cleared subjects and rendered material available in a protected permanent shape. For instance, natural history museum publications were in the library

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in two forms. Bulletins had been received currently, and also bound with the Annual report. For New York state, New Jersey and the U. S. Natural History Museum, both sets of publications were compared (that a complete file for each state be kept) duplicates removed, then those retained tabulated and catalogued.

For the first time, this year, we have attacked the pamphlet collections corresponding to the subjects whose books were now re-catalogued.

In this library only pamphlets of lasting value have been kept, but to render these available they are catalogued as fully as are books, and on the average each takes much more time. Authors are often not well-known and physical make-up or condition of the pamphlets must be considered. The policy has been adopted of treating as separates all pamphlets currently received, but classifying and binding into volumes those pamphlets that come up for re-cataloguing. A subject conforming to the Library of Congress List of subject headings is chosen as a title for the volume followed by the word—Pamphlets. Inclusive dates are added as an aid in reference work. The main entry, with contents, thus files in the catalogue with other cards on the subject, and this subject is not repeated for any of the analytics.

To be prepared for any controversy the repeal of the 18th Amendment to the U. S. Constitution might arouse, books on the liquor problem and prohibition were re-catalogued. Pamphlets were classified and bound under such headings, with dates, as:—

Prohibition, 1848-1909.

Temperance, 1833-1916.

Temperance addresses, 1774-1909.

Temperance organizations, 2 vol. 1814-1894.

Temperance. Political pamphlets. 1833-1918.

Alcoholism. Medical treatment.

Other pamphlet volumes were prepared and bound as follows:—

Art:— Essays. Catalogues. Study and teaching. 3 vol.

Civil service, 1850-1911. 2 vol.

Crime and criminals. 2 vol.

Evolution.

Meteorology.

Mexico.

Massachusetts medical society. Speeches, Addresses, etc. 1810-1901.

Music. 1803-1920.

Peace. 1818-1931. 2 vol.

Smithsonian institution. 2 vol.

Verse, chiefly of local interest. 1793-1904. 2 vol.

A total of 555 pamphlets bound into 28 volumes.

As a state library is called upon by many of its departments, whenever it is to exhibit at any World's Fair, the subject Expositions attracts all material that may be suggestive or that has been exhibited. This library has quite a collection ranging from London, 1851 to our own Sesquicentennial. This is represented in the new catalogue.

During the year water-supply of Massachusetts cities and towns has received attention. The library is surprisingly rich in preliminary and first reports of these undertakings, before the annual report of a water department was included in the town report in question. The general collection of books and pamphlets on water supply was also completed, with hydrographic surveys and reports of several states and many of their cities. Of particular interest, too, is the volume entitled:—

The two books on the water supply of the city of Rome of Sextus Julius Frontinus, water commissioner of the city of Rome, A. D. 97; a photographic reproduction of the sole original Latin manuscript, and its reprint in Latin; also a translation into English and explanatory chapters by C. Herschel. Boston, D. Estes and co. [c1899].

The re-cataloguing of crime and criminals, prisons and reformatories, penology, prison societies and all the state reports of these institutions was completed this year.

Besides keeping abreast of the daily flow from Washington of U. S. government documents, some little inroad has been made on past series of publications. The following volumes of the 15th Census of U. S. 1930 have been



received in their final form. Agriculture. Population. Unemployment. Territorial possessions.

To the histories of many foreign countries re-catalogued last year, the histories of South America, Africa, Australia, the South Seas, and Polar regions complete the globe. General voyages of discovery and travel, with exploration supplement these.

The sciences are now completed, as well as philosophy, psychology and ethics. For all of these subjects the pamphlets, too, are included.

Among outstanding additions, we have just received the League of Nations "Appeal by the Chinese government. Report of the Commission of enquiry," better known as "The Lytton report" from the name of its chairman.

#### ADDITIONS

Number of volumes added to the Library from Dec. 1, 1931 to Nov. 30, 1932:

<i>Books</i>			
By purchase 1394 plus 24 maps, etc.....	1,418		
By domestic exchange.....	1,067		
By foreign exchange.....	146		
By gift .....	1,766		
Massachusetts state publications .....	353		
Total .....	4,750	4,750	
<i>Pamphlets</i>			
By purchase .....	427		
By domestic exchange .....	1,507		
By foreign exchange .....	114		
By gift .....	3,596		
Massachusetts state publications .....	427		
Total .....	6,071	6,071	
Total 1931-32 .....			10,821
Previous total .....			515,239
Total volumes and pamphlets in library, November 30, 1932 .....			526,060

#### SUMMARY—1931-1932

Groups of books catalogued during the year for the new catalogue:

1. All current additions to the library and new continuations. This includes current law books; current documents of the United States, Great Britain and her dominions; current foreign documents, and the general book and pamphlet collections.
2. To complete histories:—South America, Africa, Australia, The South Seas, and polar regions.
3. State reports on prisons and reformatories N to Wy. with all kindred subjects.
4. Individual trials, P to Z by name of defendant.
5. The rest of the sciences; civil service; parks.
6. Philosophy, psychology, ethics completed.
7. Narcotics, liquor problem, prohibition, temperance.
8. The whole collection on exhibitions.
9. Water supply of states, cities and towns with hydrographic surveys.
10. Many sets of publications analyzed.
11. Over 500 pamphlets bound into 28 volumes.
12. Books and 3 volumes of pamphlets on manufactures.

A total of 19,476 volumes and pamphlets have been catalogued, represented by 29,587 cards which are supplemented by 5,866 analytics, making in all 35,453 cards typed and filed during the year 1931-1932.

#### TABULATION

Volumes and pamphlets catalogued by the new plan, Dec. 1, 1931 .....	319,307
Volumes and pamphlets catalogued during the year.....	19,476
Total volumes and pamphlets catalogued Dec. 1, 1932.....	338,783

Less volumes and pamphlets reduced by binding.....	426	
Less volumes and pamphlets discarded .....	235	
	<u>661</u>	661

Net volumes and pamphlets represented in the new catalogue		
Dec. 1, 1932 .....		338,122
Represented by 542,848 cards.		
The number of books added during the year were.....	4,750	
The number of pamphlets added during the year were.....	<u>6,071</u>	

Making a total of.....	10,821	
Total number of volumes now in the library.....	526,060	
Number of volumes bound during the year.....	<u>778</u>	

Legislative Reference Rooms total attendance December 1, 1931-November 30, 1932, 1910, telephone requests 1141. During the Legislative Session 526 Members of the Legislature, 438 Officials, and 267 outside of Legislators and Officials, made use of the Legislative Reference Rooms. This is the highest attendance since 1924 when it was 192 more. The telephone total is the highest to date and more than twice as high as the lowest year, 1925.

I wish to record my appreciation for the loyalty and devotion of the members of the library staff during the past year.

EDWARD H. REDSTONE,  
State Librarian.

## COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS IN ACCOUNT WITH STATE LIBRARY

FINANCIAL STATEMENT DEC. 1, 1931 TO NOV. 30, 1932

### *Expenditures*

From appropriation of \$5,700 for salary of librarian.....	\$5,700.00	
From appropriation of \$41,220 for salaries of staff.....	40,840.00	
From appropriation of \$10,500 for books and binding.....	10,481.89	
From appropriation of \$1,500 for contingent expenses.....	1,193.43	
From appropriation of \$1,500 for cleaning books.....	<u>1,468.00</u>	
Total .....	\$59,683.32	
Salary of librarian .....	\$5,700.00	
Salary of assistant librarian .....	\$2,700.00	
Salary of head of catalogue department .....	2,400.00	
Salaries of 4 library reference assistants .....	8,120.00	
Salaries of 10 senior library assistants .....	16,280.00	
Salaries of 4 junior library assistants .....	5,340.00	
Salaries of 3 senior and junior clerks and typists.....	3,360.00	
Salary of storeroom keeper .....	1,200.00	
Salary of porter .....	<u>1,440.00</u>	
		40,840.00
Purchase of books .....	8,452.39	
Binding .....	<u>2,029.50</u>	
		10,481.89
Annual report for 1930-31 .....	22.74	
Contingent expenses .....	<u>1,170.69</u>	
		1,193.43
Cleaning books (Special appropriation) .....		<u>1,468.00</u>
Total .....		\$59,683.32

### *Receipts*

Sale of periodicals .....	\$24.33	
Sale of Constitutional Convention Documents .....	<u>15.04</u>	
		\$39.37

## TABLE OF ACCESSIONS

## Books

	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
By purchase . . . . .	1,383	1,682	1,481	1,228	1,519	1,755	1,630	1,532	1,674	1,829	1,781	1,520	1,527	1,418
Domestic exchange . . . . .	1,431	716	1,022	1,027	1,031	976	1,193	1,217	1,070	1,050	1,124	1,133	1,171	1,067
Foreign exchange . . . . .	181	95	230	318	181	239	190	200	199	234	186	160	216	146
Donation . . . . .	771	1,651	1,760	1,489	2,628	1,654	1,430	1,239	1,464	1,413	1,857	1,486	1,692	1,766
Massachusetts state publications . . . . .	421	416	739	579	379	393	506	349	396	548	318	392	411	353
Totals . . . . .	4,187	4,560	5,232	4,641	5,738	5,017	4,949	4,537	4,803	5,074	5,266	4,692	5,017	4,750

## PAMPHLETS

	1919.	1920.	1921.	1922.	1923.	1924.	1925.	1926.	1927.	1928.	1929.	1930.	1931.	1932.
By purchase . . . . .	176	735	1,056	389	372	306	431	496	379	637	599	512	520	427
Domestic exchange . . . . .	1,426	499	662	619	705	1,427	1,532	1,154	1,221	1,217	1,730	1,466	1,457	1,507
Foreign exchange . . . . .	195	68	110	120	135	119	173	86	141	107	114	186	108	114
Donation . . . . .	1,408	3,260	3,141	2,739	9,318	3,161	3,219	3,946	4,181	3,370	3,488	3,791	3,837	3,596
Massachusetts state publications . . . . .	615	824	1,088	924	666	556	718	760	544	428	433	537	470	427
Totals . . . . .	3,820	5,386	6,057	4,791	11,196	5,569	6,073	6,442	6,466	5,759	6,364	6,492	6,392	6,071

Total volumes and pamphlets in library, November 30, 1932, 526,060.



